

MISCELLANY

Under this department are ordinarily grouped: News Items; Letters; Special Articles; Twenty-five Years Ago column; California Board of Medical Examiners; and other columns as occasion may warrant. Items for the News column must be furnished by the fifteenth of the preceding month. For Book Reviews, see index on the front cover, under Miscellany.

NEWS

Coming Meetings

American Medical Association, Atlantic City, New Jersey, June 7-11. Olin West, M. D., 535 North Dearborn Street, Chicago, secretary.

California Medical Association, Del Monte, May 3-6. F. C. Warnshuis, M. D., 450 Sutter Street, San Francisco, secretary.

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Pacific Coast Surgical Association, Seattle, Washington, and Victoria, B. C., February 24-27. H. Glenn Bell, M. D., University of California Hospital, San Francisco, secretary.

Medical Broadcasts*

American Medical Association

The American Medical Association and the National Broadcasting Company are presenting the second series of dramatized health broadcasts, under the title "Your Health." The first broadcast in the new series, the thirty-second dramatized cooperative broadcast under the title "Your Health," was given October 13. The theme for 1936-1937 differs slightly from the topic in the first series, which was "Medical Emergencies and How They Are Met." The new series is built around the central idea that "one hundred thousand American physicians in great cities and tiny villages, who are members of the American Medical Association and of county and state medical societies, stand ready, day and night, to serve the American people in sickness and in health."

The program will be on the Blue network instead of the Red, as originally announced.

The topics are announced monthly in advance in *Hygeia*, the health magazine, and three weeks in advance in each issue of the *Journal of the American Medical Association*.

The time of the broadcast is Tuesday afternoon, two o'clock, Pacific time.

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San Francisco County Medical Society

A radio broadcast program for the San Francisco County Medical Society for the month of February is as follows:

Tuesday, February 2—KYA, 6 p. m.
Tuesday, February 9—KYA, 6 p. m.
Tuesday, February 16—KYA, 6 p. m.
Tuesday, February 23—KYA, 6 p. m.

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Los Angeles County Medical Association

The radio broadcast program for the Los Angeles County Medical Association for the month of February is as follows:

Tuesday, February 2—KECA, 10:30 a. m., The Road to Health.
Saturday, February 6—KFI, 9:15 a. m., The Road to Health.
Saturday, February 6—KFAC, 10:15 a. m., Your Doctor and You.
Tuesday, February 9—KECA, 10:30 a. m., The Road to Health.
Saturday, February 13—KFI, 9:15 a. m., The Road to Health.
Saturday, February 13—KFAC, 10:15 a. m., Your Doctor and You.

* County societies giving medical broadcasts are requested to send information as soon as arranged (stating station, day, date and hour, and subject) to CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE, 450 Sutter Street, San Francisco, for inclusion in this column.

Tuesday, February 16—KECA, 10:30 a. m., The Road to Health.

Saturday, February 20—KFI, 9:15 a. m., The Road to Health.

Saturday, February 20—KFAC, 10:15 a. m., Your Doctor and You.

Tuesday, February 23—KECA, 10:30 a. m., The Road to Health.

Saturday, February 27—KFI, 9:15 a. m., The Road to Health.

Saturday, February 27—KFAC, 10:15 a. m., Your Doctor and You.

Wage Worker May Have Only One Federal Account Number.—Regardless of the number of employers a wage-worker may have, he can have only one account number or identification card for participation in the federal old-age benefits system under the Social Security Act, the Social Security Board emphasized today.

In issuing this statement, in response to inquiries from various sections of the country where workers having more than one employer have reported receipt of more than one identification card with differing account numbers, the Board advised each employee affected to take or send such cards to his local post office, where proper correction will be made.

The Board stated that this situation was due to the erroneous belief on the part of employees that they should file an application with respect to each job.

In emphasizing that an employee can have only one Social Security account number, the Board explained that the number of the account is permanent and is not affected by number of jobs engaged in or by changes in employment.

However, an employee who gives good reasons to the Social Security Board may have his account number changed.

The American Public Health Association's Sixty-Sixth Annual Meeting.—The American Public Health Association announces that its sixty-sixth annual meeting will be held in New York City, October 5-8, 1937.

A large eastern membership will receive that information with satisfaction. Not since 1921 has the Association met in the world's greatest city.

The sixty-fifth annual meeting took place in New Orleans in October. It attracted an attendance of 1,650 health authorities, representing forty-five states, Canada, Cuba, Mexico, and nine other foreign countries. The officers of the Association are reminding themselves of this registration in a state where the membership numbers less than one hundred and asking themselves what the registration will be in New York City, where the membership counts up to nearly five hundred within the city limits alone. An overnight's ride will enable more than one-half of the Association's five thousand members to attend the convention.

The National Organization for Public Health Nursing will meet with the American Public Health Association in 1937 for the first time. This large and important organization is expected to add another thousand to the registration lists.

The following related societies will meet with the Association as usual: The American Association of School Physicians; International Society of Medical Health Officers; Conference of State Sanitary Engineers; Conference of State Laboratory Directors; Association of Women in Public Health; and Delta Omega.

Dr. Reginald M. Atwater is the executive secretary of the Association, and the headquarters offices are at 50 West Fiftieth Street, New York, N. Y.

Social Security Allotments.—Federal grants totaling approximately \$2,326,000 for public assistance in three states were announced by the Social Security Board recently. California receives \$562,224.67 for aid to the needy blind and to dependent children; Connecticut, \$525,035.18 for aid to the needy aged; and Washington, \$1,238,731.06 for all three forms of assistance. California, as well as Washington, is among the twenty-four states cooperating in all of the public-assistance programs under the Social Security Act.

The amounts allotted to the states for each form of assistance and the number of individuals being aided under each plan, according to December estimates based on reports for the past nine months, are as follows:

State	Aid to	Federal Grant January 1 to March 31, 1937	Estimated Number of Individuals Aided in December
California	Blind	\$222,075.00	4,600
California	Children	340,149.67	22,650

With about 1,117,200 needy aged, 32,160 needy blind, and 290,240 dependent children receiving assistance from combined federal and state funds, it is estimated from reports for the past nine months that in December a total of approximately 1,439,600 persons were being aided under these three provisions of the Social Security Act. Forty-three states (including the District of Columbia and Hawaii) have plans approved under the Act for one or more of these programs—forty-two for old-age assistance, twenty-eight for aid to the needy blind, and twenty-seven for aid to dependent children.

University Enrollments in the United States: Fall Semester, 1936-1937.—The following figures have been compiled from the recent article in *School and Society* by President Raymond Walters of the University of Cincinnati. The original statistics did not separate the University of California at Los Angeles from the total figures for the University of California.

California (Berkeley alone, 13,681)	22,122
Columbia	14,862
Minnesota	13,864
Illinois	12,919
New York University	12,893
Ohio State	12,334
Michigan	10,646
Wisconsin	10,071
Washington (Seattle)	8,909
Texas	8,281
City College of New York	8,196
Harvard	8,111
University of California, Los Angeles	6,935
Louisiana State	6,823
Pennsylvania	6,608
Nebraska	6,544
Hunter College	6,506
St. John's	6,226
Chicago	6,170
Cornell	6,115
Boston University	6,025
Pittsburgh	5,866
Northwestern	5,833
Pennsylvania State College	5,575
Temple University	5,478
Syracuse	5,440
Indiana	5,344
Iowa	5,321
Purdue	5,298
Oklahoma	5,272
Yale	5,133
Brooklyn	5,000
Iowa State	4,843
Alabama	4,657
Kansas	4,465
Michigan State	4,393
University of Southern California	4,370
Loyola (Illinois)	4,306
Missouri	4,294
Oklahoma Agriculture and Mechanical College	4,187

Western Schools Not Included Above

Arizona	2,170
California Institute of Technology	805
College of the Pacific	885
Loyola (Los Angeles)	453
Montana	2,034
Occidental	678
Oregon	2,713
Oregon State	3,722
Pomona	813
Redlands	511
Santa Clara	445
St. Mary's	502
Stanford	4,023
Washington State	3,579
Whittier	467

Federal Grants to States for Assistance to Aged Persons.—Federal grants totaling \$2,724,615.10 for public assistance in California, Hawaii, Maryland, Michigan, Nebraska, Rhode Island, and Vermont were announced by the Social Security Board today.

The grants cover the period from January 1 to March 31, 1937. The amounts allotted to the states, the form of assistance for which each grant was made, and the number of individuals being aided under each plan in January, based on reports received for the past ten months, are shown in the following table:

State	Aid to	Grant	Estimated Number of Recipients
California	Aged	\$1,399,024.49	61,500

Health Officers' Training Course Scheduled at the University of California.—Continuing its drive to assist state health departments in training adequate public health personnel, the University of California has organized a second training course for sanitary inspectors, to be conducted on the University campus, under the direction of Dr. Karl F. Meyer, professor of bacteriology, from February 8 to May 4, 1937.

The first attempt in the United States to train sanitary inspectors on a large scale was made on the University campus during the summer of 1936, when forty-five men from nine western states and the Territory of Hawaii were put through a rigorous training course.

According to Doctor Meyer, the activities of the modern sanitary inspector are very broad. He must be able to meet men in all stations of life and be prepared to use diplomacy and ingenuity in enforcing public health laws. The training course is designed to develop a professional attitude and to teach the fundamentals of sanitation and the control of communicable diseases.

Eight weeks of the course will be given to lectures, conferences, laboratory practice, and group field trips. The final four weeks will consist of practical study in county and city health departments.

Certain entrance requirements will be enforced. Anyone interested in enrolling in the course may get further details from Karl F. Meyer, M.D., 3525 Life Sciences Building, University of California, Berkeley, California.

Prof. José Arcé of Buenos Aires Addresses San Francisco Chapter of Pan American Medical Association.—San Francisco had the honor of entertaining a distinguished visitor in the person of Prof. José Arcé of Buenos Aires, who arrived in this city on February 1 as the guest of the San Francisco Chapter of the Pan American Medical Association.

Rarely among confrères in any land has a physician attained the eminence in so many cultural fields and public welfare activities that is allotted this outstanding leader from South America's progressive republic. As president of the Argentine Chapter of the Pan American Medical Association, professor of surgery at the University of Buenos Aires, rector of the University, and senator of Argentina, Professor Arcé came to this country to promulgate medical Pan Americanism, to give scientific addresses and to conduct operative clinics before the chapters of New York, Washington, Los Angeles, San Francisco, etc. He also observed facilities for teaching graduate physicians in this country and addressed the students of the medical schools in the cities that he visited.

On Wednesday, February 3, at 8:15 p. m., Professor Arcé addressed the San Francisco Chapter of the Pan American Medical Association at the home of the San Francisco County Medical Society on "Preliminary Pneumothorax in Thoracic Surgery—The Importance of Its Use."

Thursday morning, February 4, at 9 a. m., he conducted an operative clinic under the auspices of the local chapter, performing a number of abdominal operations, including interventions on the gall-bladder, gastro-intestinal tract, and uterus. He also gave a scientific address before the faculty and students of the University of California Medical School on February 3 in Toland Hall, and addressed the faculty and students of the Stanford Medical School on February 5 in Lane Hall.

Professor Arcé was accompanied by his associates, Prof. Antonio Egeus and Prof. Adolfo Landivar.

Federal Old-Age Benefits.—With the Post Office Department now reporting receipt of 22,129,617 employee account number applications for participation in the federal old-age benefits program of the Social Security Act, a breakdown by states shows New York, with 3,433,631 applications, at the top of the list, the Social Security Board has reported.

This revised count of all applications on file in the 1,072 typing centers was made for the Board by the Post Office Department, and shows the totals for individual states. It supplements the Department's initial national total of 21,338,120 as of December 16, 1936, and represents an increase of 791,497 over the first report.

The Board stated that the present total of applications received should be considered as a progress report, for many thousands of Forms SS-5 are coming into post offices daily. The incompleteness of the present total is borne out by the fact that more than 24,000,000 workers are already represented on the employers' forms—known as "Employer's Application for Identification Number"—received at the Board's wage records office at Baltimore, Maryland.

Workers in seven of the leading industrial states account for more than half of the total applications, with New York first, and Pennsylvania second with 2,165,478. The next five are: Illinois, 1,680,059; Ohio, 1,469,837; California, 1,324,928; Massachusetts, 1,189,203; and Michigan, 1,109,435.

Totals by geographic divisions are: New England, 2,102,902; Middle Atlantic, 6,554,860; East North Central, 5,336,304; West North Central, 1,652,741; South Atlantic, 2,249,706; East South Central, 782,137; West South Central, 1,233,134; Mountain, 386,261; and Pacific, 1,730,117.

California Department of Industrial Relations: Report to Governor's Council—Safety Department.—The Industrial Accident Commission adopted the dusts, fumes, vapors, and gases safety orders, to be effective on December 28, 1936. These orders are the result of more than a year's study, many meetings of employers and employees with the Commission, and public hearings on the subject.

The orders require that all places of employment in which there is a hazard from dusts, fumes, vapors or gases shall be so arranged that these substances will either be prevented from being disbursed into the atmosphere breathed by the employees or, in those cases where this cannot be done, the employees will be furnished with approved respiratory equipment so that the air will be free from these substances. It is expected that by these means the dreaded disease silicosis will be eliminated from California.

The Mechanical Power Transmission safety orders and the revised logging and sawmill safety orders were also adopted, and became effective on January 1, 1937. Many meetings have been held between the employers, employees, and the Commission on this subject, and the orders as presented have the unanimous support of both employers and employees in the industries affected. These orders apply to every place of employment in which there is machinery and require that the belts, pulleys, sprockets, gears, shafting, etc., be guarded, so that there will be no hazard in their operation.

The revision of the mine safety orders is about complete. The orders are now in the hands of the printer, and the public hearings on these orders will be held in the near future.

The adopting of the new orders on dusts, fumes, vapors and gases, the adoption of the revised orders on logging and sawmills, and on mechanical power transmission and the proposed adoption of the mine safety orders will provide for places of employment the latest and best known means of preventing accidents in those industries and from the type of machinery covered by the orders.

Chairman T. A. Reardon and Commissioner Frank C. MacDonald of the Industrial Accident Commission appreciate the help that has been received from the employers and employees, and the independent consulting engineers who have given so freely of their time and knowledge in the preparation of these orders.

Federal Old-Age Retirement Benefits.—Under Treasury Department regulations, employers of one or more persons coming under federal old-age retirement benefits provisions of the Social Security Act are responsible for the filing of applications for an old-age benefit account number on behalf of their employees. The old-age benefits program went into effect January 1, 1937. . . .

Regulations No. 91 of the Bureau of Internal Revenue provide that employers after January 1, 1937, must make periodic reports to the Bureau in which the account number of each employee will be listed as the means of assuring proper credit to the employee's account for wages earned and taxes paid.

"Inasmuch as employers will eventually have to make sure that every employee has a Social Security account number in order to make required reports to the Treasury, it is evident," the Board's statement said, "that the more employees who file their applications now, the fewer will be the cases in which the employers will have to take action later."

Circumstances under which employers are required to fill out and file applications for employees are defined by Treasury Decision 4704 as follows:

"If an individual who is an employee on the last day of the period covered by any information return (see articles 402 to 405, inclusive, of Regulations 91) has failed to file an application for an account number on Form SS-5, the employer shall file an application for the employee on or before the tenth day after such last day. If an employee has failed to file an application on Form SS-5 prior to the date he attains age sixty-five, or the date he dies before attaining age sixty-five, or the date he leaves the service of the employer, the employer shall file an application for the individual on or before the tenth day after such date."

An employee, according to the Treasury Department's decision, must advise his employer as to the number of his account as soon as he receives it.

First International Conference on Fever Therapy.—The First International Conference on Fever Therapy will hold its sessions on March 29, 30, and 31, 1937, at the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University, New York City. The first day will be devoted to the discussion of physiology, pathology, and methods of production of fever. Dr. Frank W. Hartman, Henry Ford Hospital, Detroit, Michigan, is chairman of the committee arranging this section of the program, and Dr. Charles A. Doan of Ohio State University is secretary.

The second day is to be spent in the consideration of miscellaneous diseases treated by fever, such as chorea, rheumatic carditis, ocular diseases, arthritis, leprosy, meningococcus infections, undulant fever, tuberculosis, tumors, skin diseases, etc. This session will be arranged by Dr. Clarence A. Neymann, 104 South Michigan Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois, with the assistance of Dr. Frank H. Krusen, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minnesota, as secretary.

The morning of the third day is to be devoted to the consideration of syphilis. Dr. Walter M. Simpson, Miami Valley Hospital, Dayton, Ohio, is chairman of this section, which has as its secretary, Dr. Leland E. Hinsie, New York State Psychiatric Institute, New York City. In the afternoon of the same day, the treatment of gonorrhea by fever is to be discussed under the chairmanship of Dr. Stafford L. Warren, Strong Memorial Hospital, University of Rochester, Rochester, New York. The secretary of this committee is Dr. Charles M. Carpenter, Rochester, New York.

Ministries of Health from many countries have indicated their intention to send official representatives to the conference.

The official language of the conference is to be English.

Those desiring to participate are requested to communicate with the chairman of the Section in which they are interested. The manuscripts of all papers must be submitted to the appropriate chairman before February 1, 1937. Selection for the program will be made by February 15.

All who plan to attend the conference are urged to register promptly with the general secretary, Dr. William Bierman, 471 Park Avenue, New York City. The registration fee is \$15.

Federal Unemployment Assistance.—Grants totaling \$222,609.98 to cover state budgets for the administration of unemployment compensation laws in California, Kentucky, Minnesota, and Vermont were announced by the Social Security Board today.

The amount granted to California was for \$111,043.51, to cover the period from October 1 to December 31, 1936. The total amount that has been granted to California to date for this purpose is \$363,704.85.

Fifth International Congress of Hospitals.—At the congress in Rome, May, 1935, the International Hospital Association decided to hold the 1937 sessions in Paris. Previous sessions had been held in Atlantic City, Vienna, and Knocke Sur Mer, Belgium. The meetings will occur during the International Exposition, which will group the exhibits and products of more than fifty countries under the general caption, "Art and Technology."

Dr. Malcolm T. MacEachern of the American College of Surgeons is vice-president of the International Hospital Association. The Federation of the Hospital Unions of France has been designated officially by the Ministry of Public Health to coöperate with the International Hospital Association, and the program and arrangements for the congress are now being completed.

The meetings will be held at Paris from July 6 to 11, 1937, and will include visits to some of the large hospitals, the Cancer Institute, and the principal agencies engaged in public health work. At the time of the congress, scientific and pleasure tours will be conducted in various parts of France.

Persons attending the congress will be granted important reductions in rates when traveling on French and foreign railroads. The exposition authorities also will give special privileges to visitors.

The chairman of the Committee on Arrangements for the congress is M. Albert Chenevier, who is secretary-general of the Department of Public Assistance in Paris. Further information may be obtained from M. Chenevier, No. 3 Avenue Victoria, Paris IV, France.

Social Security Account Numbers.—Emphasizing that it is to the employer's and the employee's own interest to secure Social Security account numbers well in advance of the date they are actually needed for the periodic information returns required by the Bureau of Internal Revenue, the Social Security Board recently advised those employees and employers, who have not already done so, to file their applications immediately. At the same time, the Board stressed the fact that current non-possession of an account number is not a bar to the hiring of an employee. Application for account numbers should be made as soon after entering on duty as possible, however.

Bureau of Internal Revenue regulations, the Board stated, require employers to file periodic information returns giving their own identification numbers, and the name and account number of each of their employees who is required to have an account number. The regulations also require an employer to file an application for an account number for any employee who has failed to do so by the time the first information return is due. The time limit for filing of the first return, covering the period January 1 to June 30, 1937, is July 31.

In response to queries on how to obtain and file application forms at this time, the Board outlined the application procedure now being followed by employers and employees as well as by those who enter business or become employed in included employments in the future.

Employees' applications for account number—Form SS-5—will be available upon request at all local post offices, at the field offices of the Board, at offices of Collectors of Internal Revenue, and at the offices of the Board in Washington. They may be returned to local post offices through the employer, through a labor organization, or by mail or personal delivery.

Employers' applications—Form SS-4—may also be obtained at local post offices, field offices of the Board, from Collectors of Internal Revenue, and from the Social Security Board in Washington. Completed employers' applications are to be sent directly to the wage records office of the Social Security Board in Baltimore, Maryland.

The Centennial of the University of Louisville Medical School.—The University of Louisville Medical School is the second oldest medical school now in existence west of the Alleghenys and the oldest municipal medical college in the United States. It celebrates its centennial March 31 to April 3, 1937, at Louisville, Kentucky.

The Alumni are urged to make their plans now to attend their alma mater and participate in the celebrations. . . . The historic Old Kentucky Home at Bardstown and Lincoln Memorial at Hodgenville are also included in the itinerary. Mammoth Cave is within easy motoring distance for those who wish to visit this natural wonder. Lexington and the famous race-horse stables are but a short distance from Louisville and in the heart of the bluegrass region.

Postgraduate Course on Neuropsychiatry in General Practice.—The medical staff of the Menninger Clinic will conduct its third annual postgraduate course on Neuropsychiatry in General Practice, April 19 to 24, inclusive, at the Menninger Clinic, Topeka, Kansas. The course this year will include a brief introduction to the fields of neurology and psychiatry and a specific application of this knowledge to the large group of cases of psychoneuroses, psychoses and psychogenic and neurologic disorders which every physician meets in his daily practice. Suggestions made by those who took the course last year have been embodied in this year's program, in order to make it applicable to the most common practical problems of the physician.

As in previous years, several guest speakers, prominent in the fields of neurology and psychiatry, will appear at the evening sessions of the course.

Bureau of Vital Statistics: California State Board of Health.—*Births*—During July there were 7,416 births registered as against 7,056 during the corresponding month last year. This brings a total of 47,497 for the first seven months of 1936, as compared with 45,614 for the similar period of 1935.

Marriages.—There were 5,932 marriages in September of this year, bringing the total for the nine months to 44,938, while in September of 1935 there were 5,286 marriages with a nine months' total of 41,590, an excess of 3,348 marriages registered this year over last year (during the first nine months).

Deaths.—There were 6,042 deaths in May and 5,908 in June, as compared with 5,958 and 5,651 during the corresponding months last year. During the first six months of the year, there were 38,730 deaths, as compared with 36,787 in 1935 and 34,352 in 1934—an increase of 4,378, or 12.7 per cent, within the last two years, and of 1,943, or 5.3 per cent, over last year.

During the first six months there was an increase of 13.2 per cent among the epidemic diseases accounted for largely by an increase of 160.0 per cent in measles, 89.3 per cent in whooping cough, 52.8 per cent in influenza, and 62.5 per cent in dysentery, over the first six months' period last year. On the other hand, the degenerative diseases, cancer, diseases of the circulatory system, nephritis and senility, increased 3.3 per cent over the number recorded during the first six months last year. There were 2,143 infant deaths from January to June, 1936, an infant mortality rate of 53.5 per 1,000 live births, as compared with 1,952 deaths and a rate of 50.6 per 1,000 live births during the corresponding period last year.

Maternal deaths also show an increase in number, to be expected with the increased number of births. The increase is disproportionate, however, for while live births increased from 38,558 in 1935 to 40,081 in 1936, or 3.9 per cent, maternal deaths rose from 183 to 200, an increase of 9.3 per cent. The maternal death rate rose from 4.7 per 1,000 live births in the first half of 1935 to 5.0 during the first six months of 1936.

Suicides have increased from 763 to 798, an increase of 4.6 per cent, while external causes have increased 7.2 per cent from 2,812 during January to June, 1935, as against 3,015 in the same months of 1936. During the same period, pneumonia jumped from 2,100 to 2,469, an increase of 17.6.